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Message Text

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14
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 SAM-01 /077 W
---------- 105590
R 220455Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE 7818
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OAU, AO, FT
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER TO ALC MEETING IN LOURENCO MARQUES:
DEPARTURE STATEMENT

1. FOREIGN MINISTER KIFLE WODAJO TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE (ALC) MEETING WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE STRUGLE FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, PARTICULARLY IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA. HE THEN RATIONALIZED ETHIOPIA'S POSITION ON ANGOLA AND ITS POSITION REGARDING THE TFAI.
2. KIFLE STATE ETHIOPIA'S POSITION ON ANGOLA AHD NEVER BEEN AMBIGUOUS AND THE TEPMG'S RECONGNITION OF THE MPLA DID NOT COME AS A SURPRISE TO ANYONE. KIFLE SAID ETHIOPIA HAD TRIED TO COORDINATE ITS POLICIES WITH THE POLICIES OF THE OAU AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. WHEN NO AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED BETWEEN THE TREE GROUPS THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT EXCHANGED BIEWS WITH A NUMBER OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO FIND OUT WHAT COULD BE DONE TO AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED IN ANGOLA.
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THE EPMG, HE STATED , HAD BELIEVED FROM THE OUTSET THAT THE

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MPLA WAS THE ONLY ANGOLAN LIVERATION MOVEMENT " WITH A NA-
TIONAL VOCATION AND PURPOSE AND ONE WITH AN IDEOLOGY THAT
CAN REALIZED THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF ANGOLA".
KIFLE ALSO NOTED THAT THE ETHIOPIAN POSITION TO
SUPPORT THE MPLA WAS VERY CLEAR AND "THAT WE GIVE
SUFFICIENT INDICATION THAT WE WOULD RECOGNIZE THE MPLA
AFTER THE OAU CONFERENCE."
3. REF THE TFAI, KIFLE STATEDTHE FUTURE OF DJIBOUTI
WOULD BE ON OF THE MAJOR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE LI-
BERATION COMMITTEE. ETHIOPIA, HE SAID SUPPORTS INDEPENDENCE
OF THE TERRITORY, IF THAT IS THE WISH OF THE PEOPLE.
ETHIOPIA, HOWEVER, DOES NOT WISH TO HAVE OUTSIDE POWERS
SUBVERT THE WISH OF THE PEOPLE AND "WE WOULD OPPOSE THE
ESTABLISHMENT IN THE TERRITORY OF ANY INFLUENCE WHICH
WOULD SEEK TO UNDERMINE ETHIOPIA'S VITAL ECONOMIC AND
SECURITY INTERESTS". "MY TASK AT THE MEETING OF THE LIBERATION
COMMITTEE WILL BE TO INSIST THAT THE PEOPLE OF DJIBOUTI
BE ALLOWED TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION
WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE DIRECT OR INDIRECT FROM ANDY SOURCE
AND THAT ALL COUNTRIES (READ SOMALIA) SHOULD MAKE
UNEQUIVOCAL DISAVOWAL OF ANY CLAIM TO THE TERRITITORY OF DJIBOUTI
BE ALLOWED TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION
WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE DIRECT OR INDIRECT FROM
ANY SOURCE AND THAT ALL COUNTIRES (READ SOMALIA) SHOULD MAKE
UNEQUIVOCAL DISAVOWAL OF ANY CLAIM TO THE TERRITORY OF DJIBOUTI".

4. IN ADDITION TO FONMIN, THE ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TO
LOURENCO MARQUES INCLUDES MENGISTE DESTA, AMBASSADOR TO
KENY, TANZANIA, AND UGANDA, AMBASSADOR FITIGU TADESSE,
CONSUL GENERAL IN DJIBOUTI, AND KASATE BEHAN BADIMAH,
COUNSELLOR IN THE MOFA AFRICAN DEPARTMENT. KASATE TOLD
EMBOFF JANUARY 16 THAT ALC MEETING WOULD CENTER AROUND
TFAI. THERE WAS LITTLE NEW OR CONCRETE TO BE SAID
ABOUT NAMIBIA, RHODESIA OR SOUTH AFRICA. SINCE TFAI
INDEPENDENCE WAS COMING RAPIDLY, SOONER THAN MOST PEOPLE
BELIEVED, AND ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI INTERESTS WERE DIRECTLY
INVOLVED, IT WOULD PROVE VERY DIFFICULT TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM.
KASATE DOUBTED THAT THE ALC WOULD MAKE MUCH PROGRESS
ON DJIBOUT AND LOURENCO MARQUES.
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